

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 VIENNA 02398 01 OF 02 191951Z

72

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 SP-02 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSC-05

NSCE-00 EB-03 IO-03 PA-01 OES-02 CU-02 /049 W

----- 127404

R 191550Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5152

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENNA 2398

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PFOR, AU

SUBJECT: 1975 U.S. POLICY ASSESSMENT: AUSTRIA

REF: STATE 32826

1. GENERAL: U.S-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS REMAIN EXCELLENT AND DEVOID OF ANY SERIOUS BILATERAL PROBLEMS. OUR POLICY TOWARD AUSTRIA CONTINUES TO BE UNCOMPLICATED, SOUND AND GENERALLY SUCCESSFUL. AUSTRIA'S STRATEGIC LOCATION, LIMITED SIZE AND NEUTRALITY CIRCUMSCRIBE ITS FOREIGN POLICY OPTIONS. NO MAJOR SHIFTS IN AUSTRIAN FOREIGN POLICY ARE FORESEEABLE IN NEAR FUTURE. DOMESTIC POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SCENES CONTINUE STABLE. U.S. AND AUSTRIAN INTERESTS REMAIN IN MOST CASES IDENTICAL OR COMPATIBLE. U.S. KEY INTERESTS TOWARD AUSTRIA REMAIN: (1) PRESERVATION OF AUSTRIAN INDEPENDENCE, NEUTRALITY (LARGELY IN MILITARY AFFAIRS), WESTERN ORIENTATION AND WELL BEING; (2) PROMOTION OF U.S. ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL INTERESTS IN AUSTRIA (BILATERAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT; SUPPORT OF U.S. POSITIONS ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ISSUES); AND (3) FULL UTILIZATION OF AUSTRIA'S STRATEGIC LOCATION IN SUPPORT OF U.S. REGIONAL AND MULTILATERAL INTERESTS (FBIS, RPO, REX, INS, EX-IM BANK, EAST-WEST TRADE CENTER, DEA, AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE, INTELLIGENCE-GATHERING, MEDIA PLACEMENT FOR EE AUDIENCES, IAEA, UNIDO AND OPEC).

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 VIENNA 02398 01 OF 02 191951Z

2. ATTAINMENT OF OBJECTIVES: BY AND LARGE, USG PERFORMANCE IN SUPPORT OF KEY U.S. INTERESTS (NOTED ABOVE) HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL. PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO SALZBURG AND CHANCELLOR'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON, BOTH IN 1974, CONTRIBUTED SUBSTANTIALLY TOWARD ATTAINMENT OF THESE OBJECTIVES BY REINFORCING EXISTING HARMONIOUS RELATIONS. AUSTRIA'S VOTING RECORD IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (TENDENCY TOWARD ABSTENTION ON KEY ISSUES) AND ITS PROVISION FOR ADEQUATE DEFENSE FORCES (SLOWNESS OF REFORM) REMAIN PROBLEM AREAS. IN BOTH CASES, HOWEVER, IT IS FELT MAXIMUM ATTAINABLE HAS BEEN ACHIEVED UNTIL FORMATION OF NEW GOVERNMENT FOLLOWING FALL ELECTIONS.

3. VALIDITY OF EXISTING COUNTRY PAPER: AUSTRIA'S PARA, WHICH UPDATED 1974, REMAINS FULLY VALID RE GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND COURSES OF ACTION AT THIS JUNCTURE, IN FOURTH AND FINAL YEAR OF SECOND KREISKY GOVERNMENT. SOME MINOR ADJUSTMENTS IN PARA RE COURSES OF ACTION MAY BE NECESSARY AFTER NEW GOVERNMENT TAKES OFFICE FOLLOWING OCTOBER ELECTIONS. NO DIFFICULTY IS FORESEEN IN ESTABLISHING CLOSE WORKING RELATIONS WITH NEW GOVERNMENT, WHATEVER ITS COMPOSITION.

4. PROBABLE KEY ISSUES IN 1976 AND 1977: KEY ISSUES VIS-A-VIS AUSTRIA IN NEXT TWO YEARS ARE LIKELY TO BE:

A. ISSUE: WHETHER AUSTRIA, IN WAKE OF GROWING PRESSURE FROM THIRD WORLD, WILL MODIFY BY SLOW EROSION ITS EXISTING FOREIGN POLICY OF NEUTRALITY, THUS FAR SYMPATHETIC TO U.S. POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC INTERESTS, AND THEREBY MOVE TOWARD CLOSER COOPERATION WITH NON-ALIGNED WORLD.

RECOMMENDATION: 1) SENSITIVE AUSTRIAN LEADERSHIP TO ADVERSE IMPLICATION OF SUCH DEVELOPMENT TO TRADITIONAL, FRIENDLY U.S.- AUSTRIAN RELATIONS.

2) KEEP AUSTRIANS ENGAGED TO FULLEST EXTENT IN VARIOUS MULTILATERAL INSTITUTIONS (EC, GATT, IEA, UN, ETC) IN SUPPORT OF U.S. POSITIONS.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 VIENNA 02398 01 OF 02 191951Z

B. ISSUE: WHETHER AUSTRIA, IN AFTERMATH OF ONGOING ADJUSTMENTS IN WORLD ECONOMY AND ITS INCREASED DEPENDENCY ON ENERGY FROM COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, WILL FIND ITSELF SUBJECTED TO GREATER PRESSURES TO MODIFY ITS FOREIGN POLICY, POSSIBLY TO DISADVANTAGE OF U.S. INTERESTS.

RECOMMENDATION: 1) ENCOURAGE AUSTRIA TO DIVERSIFY ITS ENERGY SOURCES.

2) PROMOTE CLOSE, ACTIVE ROLE FOR AUSTRIA IN NEWLY
ESTABLISHED INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY.

3) SEEK TO KEEP AUSTRIA FULLY ENGAGED IN SUPPORT
OF WESTERN POSITIONS ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND
FINANCIAL ISSUES.

4) CONTINUE TO PROMOTE INCREASED BILATERAL
TRADE AND INVESTMENTS WITH AUSTRIA.

C. ISSUE: WHETHER CURRENT RECESSION IN WESTERN ECONOMIES
AND MAJOR UNRESOLVED POLITICAL PROBLEMS BESETTING
WESTERN STATES WILL GENERATE SERIOUS DECLINE IN CONFIDENCE
AMONG AUSTRIANS IN VIABILITY OF WESTERN DEMOCRACY AND
POSSIBLY INCREASE ATTRACTION OF POLITICAL EXTREMES.
NATURE OF ISSUE PERMITS ONLY LIMITED DAMAGE CONTROL
OPERATION BY EMBASSY.

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 VIENNA 02398 02 OF 02 191959Z

72

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 SP-02 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSC-05

NSCE-00 EB-03 IO-03 PA-01 OES-02 CU-02 /049 W

----- 127509

R 191550Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5153

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 VIENNA 2398

LIMDIS

RECOMMENDATION: 1) PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH BETTER
FOCUSED GUIDANCE ON FOREGOING ISSUE,
PARTICULARLY THROUGH VISITS OF SENIOR
U.S. OFFICIALS, WHICH CAN BE USED WITH
SENIOR DECISION MAKERS IN AUSTRIAN
SOCIETY.
2) CONTINUE EMBASSY'S EFFECTIVE
LEADER AND YOUTH PROGRAMS.

D. ISSUE: WHETHER USG SHOULD SUPPORT MAJOR
EFFORTS BY GOA TO SITE MORE INTER-
NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN VIENNA
AND HOLD MORE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES
IN THE AUSTRIAN CAPITAL.

RECOMMENDATION: SUPPORT, WHERE IN U.S. INTERESTS,
LOCATION OF NEW INTERNATIONAL BODIES
AND HOLDING OF INTERNATIONAL CON-
FERENCES IN VIENNA AND OPPOSE, FOR
OBVIOUS REASONS, RELOCATION TO
VIENNA OF EXISTING UN BODIES IN NEW
YORK OR ELSEWHERE.

FOREGOING LIST OF KEY ISSUES REFLECTS EMBASSY'S READING
OF CURRENT FACTUAL SITUATION RELATING TO AUSTRIA.
RUPTURE IN EAST/WEST DETENTE, UPRISING IN NEARBY COMMUNIST
COUNTRY, OR SIMILAR UNANTICIPATED EVENT OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE
WOULD, OR COURSE, PROMPT REVIEW BY EMBASSY OF EVOLVING
SITUATION AND SUBMISSION OF APPROPRIATE RECOMMENDATIONS.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 VIENNA 02398 02 OF 02 191959Z

5. RESOURCES: EROSION IN VALUE OF DOLLAR HAS CREATED
SHORT-TERM FUNDING PROBLEMS. STEPS, HOWEVER, ARE BEING
TAKEN TO OBTAIN NECESSARY INCREASE IN FUNDS TO SUPPORT
PREVIOUSLY PROJECTED LEVELS OF ACTIVITY. IN GENERAL,
PERSONNEL STAFFING IS ADEQUATE TO MEET PRESENT OBJECTIVES,
ALTHOUGH MINOR INCREASE IN CONSULATE IN SALZBURG IS
UNDER STUDY. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COST SAVINGS IN THE
EWTC THROUGH REDUCTIONS IN STAFF AND OVERHEAD EXPENDITURES
ARE IN PREPARATION.

6. COMMENT: FOREGOING ASSESSMENT HAS FULL ENDORESMENT
OF ALL ELEMENTS OF EMBASSY STAFF. MOWINCKEL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, POLITICAL SUMMARIES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, TRADE AGREEMENTS, NEUTRALISM
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975VIENNA02398
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750096-0373
From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750334/aaaabete.tel
Line Count: 206
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 32826
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <07 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 1975 U.S. POLICY ASSESSMENT: AUSTRIA
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PFOR, AU, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006